

**DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2011**

Members Present: Thompson, Lardizzone, Carroll, Corsa, Evans, Goss, Harden, Keithley, Lank, Newstadt, Wasson and Weir

Members Excused: Sarg

Staff Present: Davila

Introduction of Guest(s): Charles M. Dorman (VAMC Director), T.J. Healy (Project Delaware, Korea & Vietnam), Bill McMullen (AF Sergeants Association), Bettylou Evans (American Legion), Rich Magner (MOPH), Zenobia Newstadt and Linda Boone

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's Flag.

Chairman Thompson opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukah and a Happy New Year!

Mr. Dorman answered a question about the bingo machine and reported that the chapel should be renovated in time for Christmas. He talked about Telehealth and the shifting of resources to help implement the Medical Home model. They are hoping to have 4 East open by next month and will have the ribbon-cutting in February for the new OEF/OIF Health wing. The official ribbon-cutting for the new clinic in New Jersey is scheduled for January 9, 2012. There was discussion about providing eye care in lower Delaware and the challenges of getting people to think about the new way of delivering health care.

Mr. McMullen reported that they had a very successful "*Santa in the Cockpit*" event at Dover AFB.

Mr. Healy spoke about the new "Korea & Vietnam Voices of War" project and answered questions.

Ms. Boone provided a report on the Home of the Brave. She announced they would be having board elections next week. They are beginning their 20th year in operation this year. There was discussion about the progress of establishing a women veterans organization in Delaware.

**MOTION BY LARDIZZONE TO ACCEPT NOVEMBER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES, SECONDED BY HARDEN, MOTION CARRIED.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**NORTHERN CEMETERY**

Commissioner Harden provided a report on the Northern Cemetery and commented that they had over 800 interments for this year alone.

## **SOUTHERN CEMETERY**

Commissioner Evans reported that the Family Advisory Cemetery Committee (FACC) meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2012. The Southern Cemetery had 306 interments this year. There was a question about the cemetery's ability to meet the growing population and Mr. Davila provided an outline of the current plan in place.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Commissioner Weir reported that the Southern Cemetery participated in the "*Wreaths Across America*" program and he thanked all the groups and individuals who participated.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

Carroll (MOPH) – Spoke about a feature no longer available on the Social Security web site.

Evans (American Legion) – Their next Executive meeting will be held in January 2012.

Harden (WAVES) – She attended the Veterans Home advisory meeting.

Lank (MOWW) – Their next Chapter meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2012, and they will have a guest speaker.

Lardizzone (DAV) – Spoke about General Timmons becoming the first female to command the Delaware Air National Guard and discussion followed.

Newman (VFW) – The Red, White & Blue Gala will be held on January 28, 2012.

Thompson (MCL) – Announced it was the MCL's 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday and he was invited to be the guest speaker at the Seaford Post.

## **ITEMS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

A plaque was presented to Vice Chairman Lardizzone for his service as Chairman from 2008 to 2010.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:      JANUARY 17, 2012 (10:00 AM)**

**LOCATION:                              Robbins Bldg, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100  
Dover, DE**

**ADJOURNED**